

TOWN OF SAN ANSELMO

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting of June 12, 2012

Present: Coleman, Greene, Kroot, Lopin, McInerney

7:36 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ANNOUNCE ACTION TAKEN, IF ANY, IN CLOSED SESSION

Mayor McInerney announced there was no action taken during closed session.

OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION

There was no comment from the public.

COUNCIL REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Coleman expressed appreciation to Finance and Administrative Director, Daria Carrillo, for presenting accounting reports that are easily read.

Lopin requested direction from Council regarding a Marin Telecommunications Agency (MTA) meeting on June 13, 2012. Lopin stated the issue came to attention after the posting of the San Anselmo Town Council Agenda of June 12, 2012.

McInerney acknowledged the potential MTA discussion as an exception within the Brown Act rules confirming the issue came to the Town's attention after the posting of the agenda for tonight's meeting and the matter needs to be addressed immediately, before the next meeting.

M/s, Kroot/Lopin/Coleman, to address the MTA discussion at the end of tonight's agenda. AYES: ALL. NOES: None.

McInerney stated the Homeless Policy Steering Committee of Marin County is requesting a representative from San Anselmo to take part in an upcoming community charrette process and he asked if a member of the Council would be able to attend. McInerney explained the committee is required under Federal regulation to create a community-wide plan and that it is critical to have all Cities and Towns on board to meet the community goals of reducing the number of homeless in Marin.

Coleman volunteered to represent San Anselmo in the community charrette.

McInerney suggested signage regarding Sir Francis Drake High School winning State Championship Titles be updated.

Police Chief Charles Maynard introduced Shared Services Police Officer Ryan Suhrke and Officer Scott McKenna.

1. CONSENT AGENDA: ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA MAY BE REMOVED AND DISCUSSED SEPARATELY. DISCUSSION MAY TAKE PLACE AT THE END OF THE AGENDA. OTHERWISE, ALL ITEMS MAY BE APPROVED WITH ONE ACTION.

(a) Approve Minutes of May 22, 2012.

ITEM 1(a)

- (b) Acknowledge and file warrants no. 72654 to 72805 issued during the month of May 2012 in the amount of \$1,025,096.43
- (c) Approve the Revenue and Expenditure Report for the period ending May 31, 2012.
- (d) Approve the Recreation Revenue and Expenditure Report for the period ending May 31, 2012.
- (e) Approve Resolution No. 3988 establishing the 2012-2013 tax amount for the Municipal Services Tax; Resolution No. 3989 setting the Pension Override Tax for 2012-2013; Resolution No. 3990 setting the 2012-2013 Tax requirement for the Measure G General Obligation Debt Service Series 2003 and 2011 and Resolution No. 3991 approving the Special Library Services Tax for 2012-2013.
- (f) Approve Resolution No. 3992 setting the Ross Valley Paramedic Authority Tax for services in 2012-2013.
- (g) Authorize the Town Manager to award the Construction Contract for the 2012 Street Rehabilitation and Safety Improvement Projects to the lowest bidder due to time constraints.
- (h) Approve the application for Picnics on the Plaza events scheduled for Fridays, July 20th through August 24, 2012 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

There was no comment from the public regarding the consent agenda.

Regarding Item 1(a) Kroot noted the point he was making in the discussion regarding Police Shared Services was that it was moving "too quickly" and that he suggested a six month review.

McInerney requested the spelling of Ethel Seiderman's name to be corrected.

M/s, Greene/Kroot, to approve the Consent Agenda with noted changes to the minutes of May 22, 2012.
AYES: All. NOES: None.

2. APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE FLOOD COMMITTEE (TWO SEATS) AND TAX EQUITY BOARD (ONE SEAT).

Town Manager Debra Stutsman presented the staff report stating the Tax Equity Board currently has two vacancies. Jay Weill has re-applied to the Tax Equity Board. The Flood Committee has a membership of five seats with three current vacancies. Richard Stutsman and Glenn Dearth have reapplied to the Flood Committee.

There was no comment from the public.

M/s, Coleman/Kroot to re-appoint Jay Weill to the Tax Equity Board. AYES: All. NOES: None.

M/s, Greene/Kroot, to re-appoint Richard Stutsman and Richard Dearth to the Flood Committee. AYES: All. NOES: None.

3. CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE CHANGES TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE WITH REGARD TO CHAIN STORES.

Deputy Town Attorney Megan Acevedo and Interim Planning Director Diane Henderson presented the staff report.

Public Comment

Tom Arnzt, Red Hill Shopping Center, Manager/Owner, has concerns that the idea of a chain ordinance for San Anselmo has evolved from issues at the Center that did not involve chain stores but were issues with businesses that were failing or not paying their rent. Arnzt stated the owners of the Center want a community hub with local flavor.

Greg Maples, High Tech Burrito, proprietor, stated the reason they did not renew their lease at their San Rafael location because they did not feel they were getting support from the Center. Maples consider San Anselmo a good place for his business and he does not see how his company would be bad for the community.

Regarding Chain businesses, Kroot suggests areas to consider protecting should include the Downtown area, Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, the area east of the Hub.

Greene acknowledged the task of defining separate rules for various areas in Town as being a real challenge and Council should take into consideration that the task would be very difficult.

Lopin wants to maintain the small town feel of San Anselmo, especially on San Anselmo Avenue.

McInerney suggests further discussion regarding preserving and maintaining the character of the immediate Downtown area and also the area east of the Hub. He thinks the rules should be flexible to allow some sort of chain store as long as it stayed within the character of the Downtown.

Kroot noted if the ordinance were to include a design review process that it may be too restricting and controlling.

Coleman is in favor of further discussion concerning the preservation of the Downtown area.

Greene noted there are places in Berkeley that have chain stores and because of the design of the exterior of the building the store fits in with the character of the neighborhood. Greene supports continuing the discussion, with an emphasis of aesthetics and to look at various options that allows flexibility keeping within the current character.

Lopin feels chain stores are "plasticky" and have a corporate look. She would support some chain business in Town as long as the chain kept within Town aesthetics and they do not change the character of the Town. Lopin favors a chain ordinance as it would provide more definition than design review process.

Kroot has concerns with national fast food chain stores coming into Town as he feels it would lessen the sense of San Anselmo. He thinks the rules should have a very broad definition.

McInerney acknowledged the Council's consensus for staff to look at various options for consideration of an Ordinance for retail chains and restaurant chains in Town to maintain the aesthetic look of the Downtown area. It should allow the flexibility to have potential chain businesses as long as it maintains the look of the Town's current character.

Henderson said that the Town's current ordinances do provide some regulations in this area.

Coleman wonders if Council should consider the restrictions and definitions in Fairfax's chain ordinance as a basis to review.

McInerney likes a few of the ideas that Fairfax has in their chain ordinance, however, he does not support their ordinance in whole as he feels it is overly protective.

Kroot confirmed the issue is still open for discussion as Council may decide the Town's Design Review process is sufficient for regulating chain businesses within the Town.

4. DISCUSSION ON UPCOMING MARIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENCY MEETING ON JUNE 13, 2013.

Lopin stated the Marin Telecommunications Agency (MTA) will be voting on budget issues tomorrow. Lopin requested Council's input stating they will be voting on funding issues that involve the Media Center of Marin and her vote may affect how much money San Anselmo receives from MTA.

After a brief discussion Council's consensus was to support the Media Center of Marin as the decrease in franchise fees are nominal.

McInerney feels the Media Center has been a great asset for Marin and will become more sustainable in the long term.

5. ADJOURN.

Mayor McInerney adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m. in honor of David Faw who passed away last week. David was a previous employee of the Town of San Anselmo.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Kessel